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M E M O R A N D U M

December 19, 1968

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney

FROM: ANDREW SCIAMBRA, Assistant District Attorney

RE: INTERVIEW WITH EDDIE PORTER
1222 DELACHAISE STREET REGARDING
LEE HARVEY OSWALD

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Jim Alcock and I interviewed EDDIE PORTER in regard to whether or not he had ever met LEE HARVEY OSWALD. PORTER said that he met LEE HARVEY OSWALD on one occasion. He said that it was some time during the summer of 1963 and it was in the vicinity of the Penny Arcade in the 100 block of Royal Street. PORTER was working at the time as a desk clerk at the Sheraton Charles Hotel and had the habit of walking down to the Penny Arcade or Walgreens Drugstore in the 100 block of Royal on his break. On the occasion that he met OSWALD he had gone to the Penny Arcade and had met a person JOHN who was with two other young men (one of which was OSWALD). He said that he and JOHN exchanged the time of day and JOHN casually said "These are two of my friends, would you like to buy some coffee for us." PORTER said sure, and he and JOHN and the two friends went to Walgreens and ordered some coffee. PORTER said he doesn't believe he was ever introduced to the other two boys and if he was, he can't remember the introduction. He said the conversation was mostly between he and JOHN and he doesn't remember the other two boys contributing much to the conversation. He said that after they drank coffee he went to work, and he left JOHN and his two friends in the vicinity of the Penny Arcade.

PORTER said that after the assassination he saw a picture of LEE HARVEY OSWALD in the newspaper and on television and also when RUBY shot him and he felt sure that LEE HARVEY OSWALD was one of the boys with JOHN that he met that day. PORTER said that he never saw JOHN again until about early 1965, and during the course of their conversation PORTER asked him if he knew OSWALD and was that OSWALD with him on that day and also if OSWALD ever gave out leaflets on Gravier Street. JOHN told him that he didn't know about OSWALD giving out leaflets on Gravier Street but that yes, he did know LEE HARVEY OSWALD and OSWALD used to go to the Penny Arcade with him. PORTER said that he didn't go into it any further and nothing more was said about it.

PORTER and his mother usedto run the Barony Art Gallery on St. Charles. About the time that PORTER met OSWALD and JOHN he was working at the Sheraton Charles Hotel and shortly after he met JOHN and OSWALD, he changed jobs and worked and lived up in the Carrollton section of town and never had a chance to get around the Penny Arcade anymore. Consequently he didn't see JOHN for over a year when he moved uptown and didn't see him again until 1965. PORTER said the last time that he saw JOHN was in late 1966. He said that although he doesn't know JOHN's last name, he knows that

JOHN was a male prostitute and was constantly around the Penny Arcade and believes that he went back and forth between Houston and New Orleans very frequently. He said that JOHN spoke with a Texas accent and he believes he was from Houston, Texas. He said that he had just happened to meet JOHN in the Penny Arcade one day where JOHN was just hanging around playing the pinball machine. He says that he doesn't believe JOHN ever worked and relied mostly on the money that he made as a male prostitute. He describes JOHN as about 5'10", stocky build, 175-185 pounds, dark crew cut hair, ruddy complexion with somewhat of an Irish looking face. JOHN was in his late teens or early 20's. PORTER said that he had just gotten back in town as his job with Western Geophysics made him travel around quite a bit.

PORTER said that on the day he met OSWALD, OSWALD had on bluejeans and a T-shirt and a windbreaker. He says he doesn't remember anything about the third boy but he got the definite impression that OSWALD and the other boy were hustling guys just like JOHN was.

PORTER said that when he saw OSWALD's picture after the assassination, he knew that he had seen him before and then when some friends of his told him that RUBY was a homosexual, he said this clicked his mind into remembering the Penny Arcade incident.

Dan Campbell

PORTER also said that for a short period of time he was trying to help an anti-Castro group which had offices on Gravier Street. A friend of his by the name of DAN CAMPBELL was very active in the group and had asked him to help out in any way that he could. He said that he went to a couple of their meetings and at one of these meetings he noticed someone handing out leaflets on the sidewalk not too far from the building where the meeting was taking place. He says he never paid any attention to the person at the time but he believes this might have been OSWALD also, and this is what prompted him to ask JOHN about OSWALD handing out leaflets. He says, however, that this incident happened before the summer of 1963. He said the anti-Castro group was working with I.N.C.A.

PORTER will be leaving for California on December 26th but said that he would try to find out JOHN's last name for us and would also leave us his California address.

NOTE:

It is interesting to note that in CAPTAIN MARTELLO's testimony to WESLEY LIEBELER, MARTELLO says that he asked OSWALD about the members of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in New Orleans and OSWALD said that one of the members of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in New Orleans was named JOHN.

Andrew J. Sciambra

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